



Town of Miami Lakes Emergency Management

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Continuing Measures

March 12th, 2020

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is responding to an outbreak of a respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in China, which has spread to the United States. According to the CDC, the immediate risk of this virus to the American public is still believed to be low ..

At this time, the CDC has identified the following groups that are at “higher risk” to develop more severe cases from the virus:

- Older adults
- People who have serious chronic medical conditions like:
 - Heart disease
 - Diabetes
 - Lung disease

Plan

As this continues to be a rapidly developing event, the most important task now is staying up to date with Federal, State and Local information on the subject and disseminating it properly to the public.



Figure 1.A depicts the flow of information from governing agencies through the Town to its employees and staff

Current Stage

Our community is possibly facing an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus,. We are in the planning stages of preparing for the possibility of this event taking place and will be following guidance from the prevailing agencies on how to mitigate exposure and spread. Recommendations to reduce the risk of mass spread are listed below as presented by the State and CDC:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If you don't have soap and water, use a hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol based.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Stay home when you're sick, and keep your children home when they're sick
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands
- Try not to touch your face with unwashed hands
- Don't touch or shake hands with people who are sick

The Town has posted additional flyers around Town Hall & other Town facilities with ways to minimize exposure and has received more hand sanitizer stations that were placed around the workplace and for our visitors. Additionally, the Town has created a pop-up banner on the landing page of its official website with links to the prevailing agencies who are putting out the information on COVID-19. Town hall operations will continue as regularly scheduled.

We have also been in contact with our program providers, athletic providers & transportation providers in ensuring they too are taking the proper steps to minimize any potential exposure to participants and residents alike. Each community center and Town Hall has information on the proper sanitization routine recommended to deter the passing of germs. Our janitorial contractor has been paying extra attention to detail in disinfecting all high-volume touch surfaces like door handles, elevator buttons and railings around Town.

Police has been attending county meetings with regards to COVID-19 precautions and planning. While following the lead of the County, our police department continues to take preventative measures in reducing the spread of the virus through proper sanitizing guidelines. Additionally, the police department has been visiting local Assisted Living Facilities ("ALF") and discussing the importance of COVID-19 awareness, the preventative measures to reduce exposure and the proper process to report any potential cases.

Public Awareness Measures

As we continue to navigate this event, the Town will be continuing its efforts in providing information and resources in a preventative nature to mitigate exposure. The following measures aim to inform the public of where to go for information and what recommendations we currently have for doing business with the Town.

- I. Stay informed
 - a. Visit the CDC's website for all information surrounding the COVID-19 virus
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- II. Take action on a personal level
 - a. Help reduce the risk of mass exposure by personally acting and instituting proper hygiene habits (i.e. cleaning hands regularly, using hand sanitizer, coughing into elbows or sleeves, avoid touching your face and when feeling sick staying home)
- III. Limiting personal contact
 - a. Avoid any non-essential personal contact
 - b. **we do recommend that any resident or contractor that has business to transact with the Town call or e-mail the Town or use the Town's app first to see if their issue or concern can be resolved via the telephone or electronically.**
 - c. **For everyone's safety, if you do not need to visit Town Hall in person, please try to avoid it. If you do visit Town Hall, we ask for the public's full cooperation in following all common sense guidelines for prevention for the safety of the general public, our councilmembers, and our employees. Please avoid visiting Town Hall if you are sick or are experiencing any flu like symptoms.**
 - d. If sick, please practice social distancing and refer to your healthcare provider for guidance
- IV. Know what additional measures those at high-risk and who are vulnerable should take
- V. Create a household plan of action incase of illness or disruption to daily activities due to COVID-19
- VI. Utilize Town sanitization stations when present in a Town facility

Continuing Measures by the Town

- I. Monitor the virus on a daily frequency
- II. Senior staff meetings for COVID-19 planning and evaluation on a weekly basis (at a minimum)
- III. Continuing to relay information to the community
- IV. Add additional signage to community centers and Town facilities to inform the public of COVID-19
- V. Developing a page for COVID-19 direction and information on Town website
- VI. Provide support to the community as needed to plan for potential development with COVID-19 in our Town
- VII. The Town will be cancelling all events & programming, including athletic competitions and games through April 5 and to be evaluated periodically for longer term determination
- VIII. Freebee services will continue to operate until further notice, however increased cleaning and sanitization efforts are being taken by the transportation provider

For more information please visit any of the following sites:

<https://www.cdc.gov/>
<https://www.floridahealth.gov/>
<https://www.miamilakes-fl.gov>